

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-5. (Cancelled)

6.(currently amended) A band comprising:

a substantially cylindrical continuous one-piece compact body made from ~~[[an]]~~ a soft elastomeric material and having a substantially unbroken circumference and a substantially continuous height;

the body being continuously stretchable at least in the circumferential direction along the entire circumference thereof, the circumference having ~~[[an]]~~ a relatively long relatively narrow opening sized such to enable a wearer's ponytail to be easily pulled ~~pull-through~~ therethrough and ~~[[held]]~~ retained securely without flattening and kinking of the wearer's hair;

wherein the band is configured to be worn simultaneously as a headband and as a pony retainer.

7.(Previously presented) The band of claim 6, wherein the hair accessory is worn as an ear warmer, a scarf, muffler, the opening being configured as an elongated slit.

8.(previously presented) The band of claim 6, wherein the elastomeric material is a material capable of providing warmth.

9. (Previously presented) The band of claim 6, wherein the opening is round.

10. (Currently amended) The band of claim 6, wherein the opening is square ~~squire~~.

11. (Previously presented) The band of claim 7, wherein the slit has a not greater than a distance between the ears of a wearer, as measured across the back of the wearer's head.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously presented) The band of claim 6, further comprising decorative accents disposed on at least a portion of the circumference of the body.

14. (Previously presented) The band of claim 6, wherein the band has a decorative shape.

15. (Previously presented) A method of wearing multi-use hair accessory, the accessory having a substantially cylindrical band, the band having a substantially cylindrical continuous one-piece body made from an elastomeric material having a substantially unbroken circumference and a substantially continuous height; the body being continuously stretchable at least in the circumferential direction along the entire circumference thereof, the circumference having an opening sized to enable a wearer's ponytail to pull through and held securely, the method comprising the steps of:

positioning the band around the neck of the wearer so that the opening faces the wearer's head;

pulling and securing the wear's hair through the opening thereby forming a ponytail; and

positioning a portion of the band opposite the opening up over the wearer's face and past the wearer's hair line.

16. (Previously presented) A method of wearing multi-use hair accessory as a neck warmer, the accessory having a substantially cylindrical band, the band having a substantially cylindrical band, the band having a substantially cylindrical continuous one-piece body made from an elastomeric material and having a substantially unbroken circumference and a substantially continuous height; the body being continuously stretchable at least in the circumferential direction along the entire circumference thereof, the body having an opening sized to enable a wearer's ponytail to pull through and held securely, the method comprising the

positioning the band around the neck of the wearer so that the opening faces the back of the wearer's head; and

pulling and securing the wear's hair through the opening thereby forming a ponytail.